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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/824,554	04/02/2001	Junsaku Nakajima	70551-55784	9695
21874	7590	03/18/2005	EXAMINER	
EDWARDS & ANGELL, LLP P.O. BOX 55874 BOSTON, MA 02205			HINDI, NABIL Z	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2655	

DATE MAILED: 03/18/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	09/824,554	NAKAJIMA ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	NABIL Z HINDI	2655	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 22 December 2004.

2a) This action is **FINAL**. 2b) This action is non-final.

3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) Claim(s) 1-35 is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) 14-35 is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6) Claim(s) 1,2 and 6-12 is/are rejected.

7) Claim(s) 3-5 and 13 is/are objected to.

8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a) All b) Some * c) None of:

- Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
- Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
- Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 03/09/05.

4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.

5) Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)

6) Other: _____.

In response to applicant's response dated Dec 22, 2004. The following action is taken:

The following claims are rejected for the same reasons set forth in the previous office action mailed March 19, 2004 repeated herein for applicant's convenience.

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1, 2 and 6-12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by the admitted prior art as shown in figs 6-8B and 11A-13D.

Claim 1 is broadly interpreted to read on the inherent feature of an optical disk wherein data is representative by a first areas having a first depth (pits) and a second area having information (non-pits or mirror). The reference shows an optical disk having a first region wherein data having a first depth is recorded fig 13A 53, 56, and a second region having data information with a second depth is recorded fig 13A 55 and 58.

With respect to the limitations of claims 2 and 3. The admitted prior art shows the use of a first and second depth data pits within the first region 55, 58, 52 and 53. The second region (user data region) having pits 55 and 58.

With respect to the limitations of claims 6, 7 and 9-12. The admitted prior art discloses the use of a lead-in area of the disk having the additional information (TOC data) for reading the user data (second region) area. The first region unclosing key data, scrambling data ...etc as disclosed on page 2 of the specification.

With respect to the limitation of claim 8. the second region in fig 13A is identified as a user data area.

Claims 3-5 and 13 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

None of the cited prior art discloses the use of a first region having at least two different pit depths wherein the tangential push-pull signal differ in polarity nor the use of two different depth satisfying the formula as claimed.

Applicant's arguments filed Dec 22, 2004 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive. Applicant's arguments (page 5 second paragraph) are centered around the prior art not showing or teaching "providing pits of different depths 2a, 2b as shown in the embodiment of Fig. 1B within the pit string itself". The argument is not supported nor claimed in the claimed invention, none of the rejected claims are drawn to having different depths within the pit string itself. In view of applicant's arguments which is only supported by claims 3 and 13. the claims are now objected to for the reasons argued by applicant

THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL. Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period

Art Unit: 2655

will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication should be directed to NABIL Z HINDI at telephone number (703) 308-1555.



NABIL HINDI
PRIMARY EXAMINER
GROUP 2500
dbs-